

**BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**December 30, 2008 MINUTES**

On Tuesday, December 30, 2008, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 9:50 a.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the Madison County Courthouse in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Jim Hart, Marilyn Ross, and David Schulz present.

Jim Hart moved to approve the December 16, 2008, minutes with corrections. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Marilyn Ross moved to approve the December 22, 2008, special meeting minutes as read. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Chris Christensen, Barbie Durham, Karen Brown, Janie Alt, Leona Stredwick, Margie Edsall, Tom Burt, Judy Melin, David Ross, Patty Davis, Holly Barney, Johanna Lester, MaryAnn O'Malley, Chris Mumme, Dana Escott, Richard Woods, Nick Novich, Randy Lowder, and Lynn Lowder.

**Claims:** The Board approved claims.

**Lee House/Office Space:** Chris Christensen, County Attorney, Barbie Durham, Grant Writer, Karen Brown, GIS/IT, Janie Alt, Weed Office Clerk, Leona Stredwick, Planning Office Clerk, and Margie Edsall, Weed Coordinator, were present for this portion of the meeting. David Schulz opened the discussion by asking if anyone had questions of the Board regarding the possible purchase of the Lee House. Topics discussed were the location of the Lee house not being ideal; ADA requirements; concerns with the school and Pankey house; cost of acquisition and renovations to the Lee house; exterior improvements to the Lee house: the proposed addition to the back of the Courthouse, structural issues with the Lee house; Heritage Commission buildings; timeline of moving if the Lee house is purchased; and location of the County Seat. After much discussion, Jim Hart moved to enter into negotiations for the Lee property for temporary use as County offices and to evaluate the cost of renovations to the property if acquired. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Madison Valley Manor Remodeling Project:** Tom Burt, Madison Valley Manor Maintenance, Judy Melin, Madison Valley Manor Administrator, and Barbie Durham, Grant Writer, met with the Board to discuss the Madison Valley Manor remodeling project. In a telephone conference with Rick Schlenker and Jason Davis, SMA Architects, the Board discussed the proposal to buy siding from the Madison Valley Hospital for the nursing home project. Rick stated that he had reviewed the cost for new products and had determined new to be less expensive than purchasing the product that had been offered by the hospital. After much discussion, Jim Hart moved to offer the hospital \$10,000 for their siding without the trim. The motion died for lack of a second. Rick reminded the Board that if they provided the siding and there were any defects, the contractor would not be liable for any replacements. The Board also discussed funding and the overall budget for the project. Rick stated that the budget could be decreased if windows were bid as an added alternative. Jim Hart moved to move forward with the siding and roof with windows as an added alternative. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Swearing In Ceremony:** MaryAnn O'Malley, Justice of the Peace, performed a ceremony to swear in David Schulz, as District 1 Commissioner, Marilyn Ross, as District 2 Commissioner, and Chris Christensen, as County Attorney. Margie Edsall, Barbie Durham, Janie Alt, Karen Brown, Chris Christensen, David Ross, Patty Davis, Holly Barney, and Johanna Lester were present for the ceremony.

**PDM Bid Openings:** The Board received two bids to update the Southwest Montana PDM. Barbie Durham, Grant Writer, opened and reviewed the bids. Chris Mumme, Director of Emergency Management, was also present for this portion of the meeting. Chris stated that Pamela Shrauger was very highly recommended by the state for her work in on this type of update. Marilyn Ross moved to accept the low bid proposal to update the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plans for Madison County, Beaverhead County, and Broadwater County, from Big Sky Hazard Management, Pamela L. Shrauger, for the amount of \$29,122.50, based on the recommendation of the Grant Writer and the Director of Emergency Management. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**TSEP Bridge Projects:** Marilyn Ross moved to approve the final Application for Payment, Number 3, from Buck Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$150,414.30, and the Certificate of Substantial Completion, for Coy Brown, Cherry Creek, and South Boulder Bridge Replacements, MT-TSEP-CG-08-393. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Appoint Commission Chair:** Jim Hart moved to re-appoint David Schulz as the Commission Chairman for 2009. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. Jim Hart and Marilyn Ross voted aye. David Schulz abstained from voting. The motion carried on a majority vote.

**Class of County Resolution:** Jim Hart read the proposed resolution. After discussion regarding the change in taxable values, Jim Hart moved to adopt Resolution 37-2008, a resolution designating Madison County as a class 1B county for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Full Throttle Flat Track Association Contract with Fairgrounds:** Dana Escott, Fair Manager, Barbie Durham, Grant Writer, Richard Woods and Nick Novich, Fair Board members, met with the Board to discuss the proposal to put a motorcycle race track at the Fairgrounds in Twin Bridges. Dana stated that discussions with the Full Throttle Flat Track Association have been in progress for eight months. She stated that the Association will build and maintain a track to be used one Saturday a month for five months, that they would incur all costs of building and maintaining the track, they would provide QRU and/or ambulance service during races, and would return the track to a useable state when they are no longer using it. The Board asked about the organization; if they have Articles of Incorporation or By-laws; who would be the legal entity that would be responsible to return the track to its original condition if it does not work out, etc. The Board pointed out questions from Chris Christensen, County Attorney, regarding insurance and the condition the track should be returned to. Marilyn stated that she had contacted Greg Jackson, MACo Insurance Trust, who advised her that liability limits need to be higher. Both Richard Woods and Nick Novich spoke in favor of the track, stating that it would generate revenue for both the Fairgrounds and the surrounding communities. Marilyn suggested that Dana make the necessary changes to the contract, determine who the responsible party will be, and get the topic back on the Twin Bridges Town Council agenda before bringing it back to the Board of Commissioners to request final approval.

**Butte-Silver Bow RAC Participation:** Jim Hart moved to encourage Butte-Silver Bow County's participation in the three county Resource Advisory Council to form the Southwestern Montana Forest Service Resource Advisory Council. Marilyn Ross seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Ennis Airport Assistant Manager Position:** After discussion, Jim Hart recommended waiting at least until summer when it gets busier to consider hiring an Assistant Manager for the Ennis/Big Sky Airport. The Board took no action on the position at this time.

**Grants:** Lynn Lowder, SWMTCCP, Madison County Prevention Officer, presented the Board with a grant application for underage drinking prevention. Randy Lowder was also present for this portion of the meeting. Marilyn Ross moved to authorize the Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws grant application #09-03 from the Montana Department of Crime Control. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Maintenance Position:** The Board reviewed applications for the maintenance personnel position and selected eight candidates to interview. The Board will schedule interviews for Monday, January 5, 2009, and Tuesday, January 6, 2009, beginning at 1:00 p.m. both days.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

---

David Schulz, Chairman  
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: January 6, 2009

Minutes prepared by:

---

Laurie Buyan, Administrative Assistant

---

Peggy Kaatz, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County